GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2546
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2005
PRODUCTION AND EXPORT OF MINERALS
Acharia Shri Basudeb

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) details of various types of minerals/ores produced in India & exported during the last three years;

(b) whether there is any restriction on exporting these minerals/ores;

(c) whether Ferro alloy makers & Steel producers are opposing the free export of these minerals;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether finished value added product could earn more money than export of minerals/ores; and

(f) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (Dr. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a) India is endowed with significant mineral resources and produces 90 minerals, out of which 4 are fuel minerals, 63 are major metallic and non-metallic minerals including atomic minerals and 23 minor minerals. As per information received from Indian Bureau of Mines, a subordinate office under the control of Ministry of Mines, the total value of export of ores and minerals during the last three years are as under:-

Value in Rs. Crores

2001-2002	35136
2002-2003	46618
2003-2004 (provisional)	49912

(b): Department of Commerce has intimated that minerals and ores which when exported face certain requirements or restrictions as per the present Foreign Trade Policy. There are four policy categories to decide exportability of specific items, namely Prohibited, Restricted, Export through STE (State Trading Enterprises) and Freely exportable. Restricted items can be permitted for export under licence. Export through STE (State Trading Enterprises) is permitted without an export licence through designated STEs subject to conditions and Freely exportable items can be exported without an Export licence or permission from the Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT).

(c) & (d) The Indian Ferro Alloy Producers` Association and some domestic steel producers have represented to Ministry of Steel to impose restrictions on export of iron ore, chrome ore and manganese ore so as to ensure the availability of these minerals for domestic industry.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Value addition is a commercial decision for investors depending, inter-alia, on the demand of value added products in export market and profitability of the endeavour.